
OLR Bill Analysis

HB 5499

AN ACT ENCOURAGING STUDENTS IN TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAMS TO TUTOR CHILDREN IN ALLIANCE DISTRICT SCHOOLS.

SUMMARY:

This bill requires each state public institution of higher education with a teacher preparation program to establish an internship program that encourages students to tutor children in alliance districts, which are low-performing school districts (see BACKGROUND). The internship program must allow students enrolled in a teacher preparation program to earn one academic credit per semester for tutoring a child enrolled in an alliance district for one hour per week.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

BACKGROUND

Alliance Districts and DPI

Alliance districts are the 30 school districts that have the lowest academic performance as measured by district performance indices (DPIs) in the state.

A school district's DPI is its students' weighted performance on the statewide mastery tests in reading, writing, and mathematics given in grades three through eight and 10, and science in grades five, eight, and 10. The index is calculated by:

1. weighting student scores in each of these subjects as follows: zero for below basic (the lowest score), 25% for basic, 50% for proficient, 75% for goal, and 100% for advanced;
2. adding up the weighted student scores for each subject;

3. multiplying the aggregate student results in each subject by 30% for mathematics, reading, and writing and 10% for science; and
4. adding up the weighted subject scores.

The weightings produce the lowest indexes for districts with the lowest test scores.

Related Bill

HB 6222 reported favorably by the Education Committee allows an alliance district to agree with a charter school within the district to use academic achievement scores of the charter school's student as part of the district's overall scores.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 20 Nay 0 (03/26/2013)